

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 and 3 without prejudice.
Please amend claims 5 and 6 as set forth below.
Please add new claims 66-70 presented below.

Complete Listing of the Claims

Upon entry of the present amendment, the claims will stand as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

- 1-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently amended) The purified polypeptide of claim 4 66, wherein the polypeptide has a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.
6. (Currently amended) The purified polypeptide of claim 4 66, wherein the protease is a caspase-family protease.
7. (Original) The purified polypeptide of claim 6, wherein the caspase-family protease is selected from the group consisting of a Caspase-3, a Caspase-6, a Caspase-8, and a Caspase-9.
8. (Original) The purified polypeptide of claim 6, wherein the caspase is a Caspase-3.
- 9-65. (Cancelled)
66. (New) A purified polypeptide characterized as having *Renilla* luciferase activity and a recognition site specifically cleavable by a protease, wherein cleavage results in a decrease in luciferase activity and wherein the recognition site is at residues 197-200 of SEQ ID NO: 2 and is a peptide sequence wherein residue 198 is glutamic acid and 200 is aspartic acid.
67. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 66, wherein the peptide sequence of the recognition site is XEHD (SEQ ID NO: 22), wherein X is W or L or VEXD (SEQ ID NO: 23), wherein X is H or I.

68. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 67, wherein the peptide sequence of the recognition site is selected from the group consisting of VEHD (SEQ ID NO: 23, wherein X is H), LEHD (SEQ ID NO: 25), WEHD (SEQ ID NO: 18) and VEID (SEQ ID NO: 23, wherein X is I).

69. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 66, wherein the peptide sequence of the recognition site is selected from the group consisting of DEVD (SEQ ID NO: 21), LETD (SEQ ID NO: 24), IEPD (SEQ ID NO: 16) and DETD (SEQ ID NO: 17).

70. (New) A purified polypeptide characterized as having *Renilla* luciferase activity and a recognition site specifically cleavable by a protease, wherein cleavage results in a decrease in luciferase activity and wherein the recognition site is at residues 197-200 of SEQ ID NO: 2 and is a peptide sequence comprising YVAD (SEQ ID NO: 19).